



## **KANSAS FREEMASONS** ON THE LEVEL

### 2017 REQUIREMENTS and GUIDELINES For One Day Conferral– 3 Blue Lodge Degree Event

#### **Introduction**

Our traditional method of conferring degrees is structured and consistent across the state.

The ritual is maintained by our Ritualistic Committee and safeguarded by the Ritualistic Committee and fine corps of Grand Lecturers. The traditional method of conferring degrees, one degree at a time with ample Masonic Education and required candidate proficiency is still the recommended course. However, your Grand Lodge is aware of the perceived value of having a high-quality, Chance to Advance Conferral and is committed to improving the quality of this event.

#### **Terminology used in these Guidelines:**

- 3 Degree Conferral or The Conferral: relates to the herein described Degree Class being held on February 18<sup>th</sup> 2017.
- Candidate: any Brother who meets the qualification of attending the 2017 Conferral and is properly registered to do so.
- Mentor or Coach: the individual assigned by the Master of each lodge to each Candidate.

#### **The 2017 Chance to Advance Conferral – Defined**

**When:** This conferral will be held on Saturday February 18<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**Where:** Scott City, Kansas

**What:** This conferral will consist of the EA, FC and MM degrees, all sections and all lectures. The normal Request for Courtesy Work must be executed by the home lodge.

**Dress Code:** As with all opening of Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge Officers will be in Masonic Suit, Morning Suit or Tux, as required. Those filling ritualistic and support roles are requested to be in Tux or Dark Suit. Candidates should be encouraged to dress at least, business casual by their home lodge. Individual Lodge Officers and the Mentors attending should also be thus, properly attired.

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### **Requirements**

#### **Home Lodge Requirements**

1. The Brother taking the Degree Conferral must have been reported to the Office Grand Secretary prior to the Conferral, to assure proper vetting. No exceptions!
2. The Petitioner must follow the normal process for receiving, investigating and balloting on petitions including standard background check. **This is to ensure the Petitioner is “in the Grand Lodge Database System”; which is required for him to register for the degree, via online registering.**
3. Petitions may be received at either a Stated or Special Communication (4-118).
4. A petition shall be balloted on at a Stated Communication only. (4-119A).
5. Each Lodge is responsible for collecting their own dues and fees in accordance with Grand Lodge By-Laws.
  - a. The Grand Lodge, serving as the Host Lodge for the Degree Conferral, will not collect money for any other Lodge.
6. Each Lodge having candidates in the Conferral will report this activity in the prescribed manner to the Grand Lodge Office through the LSI or, in their next Monthly Activity Report.
7. Membership Cards and other items given the candidates (EA, FC & MM Proficiency Support Programs, etc) will not be given out to the Candidates on the day of the Conferral. The Home Lodge will notify the Grand Lodge should the new member be unable to return to his home lodge within the 90 day required time period because of military duties, or emergency situations. An alternate plan will be agreed upon by the Grand Master and the Home Lodge to ensure the new member receives his Membership Card and other Lodge amenities.
8. The following items are required to be furnished by the Home Lodge for each of the Candidates attending the 2016 Chance to Advance Conferral. **These items must accompany the Lodge leadership and brother to the Conferral.**
  - a. The Candidate's, new, personal apron, which the lodge will furnish. This will be used during the degrees of the Conferral.
  - b. An individual Mentor / Coach assigned and in attendance at the Conferral. Please provide the Mentor's name when submitting the request for courtesy work to attend for the Candidate, to the Grand lodge.
  - c. A Holy Bible or other appropriate Volume of Sacred Law for each Candidate to be obligated on.
  - d. A Cable-tow for each Candidate in attendance

#### **Grand Lodge / Governance Guidelines**

9. Registration for anyone attending will be done online at the Grand Lodge web page [www.kansasmason.org](http://www.kansasmason.org) under the News and Events/Event Registration heading. Everyone who attends, Candidates, Mentors, Master Masons, Lodge

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- Officers, Grand Lodge Officers must register online to ensure that we have plenty of food, drinks and other accommodations necessary for the days activities.
10. The Grand Lodge, as host Lodge must have a letter or Courtesy Work Form from the candidate's Home Lodge, requesting courtesy work, with the Lodge Seal thereon, within 7 days of the Conferral. Included in the letter or form will be the Candidate's full name, address, and what degrees are to be conferred.
  11. The EA, FC & MM will be conferred. Any who have been Initiated, meet the qualifications & requirements as noted in these guidelines and have the required Proficiency Certificate can receive the Second and Third degrees. Likewise, any who have received their First and Second degrees can receive their Third degree.
  12. The two-week time period found in the Constitution, Article X, Sec. 5, is waived for this Conferral
  13. All work for the EA, FC & MM Degrees will be performed, including Lectures.
  14. Candidate Proficiency for the degrees, as outline in by-law 4-206 will be waived.

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### **Chance to Advance Conferral Guidelines**

1. Grand Lodge will be opened on the First Degree by Grand Lodge Officers
2. Before the Degree work starts, a **BRIEF** explanation of what Masonry is and is not may be given. The conferral, candidates should be informed of what is expected of each of them during the degrees.
3. Prior to each degree the Square and Compass are placed in their proper positions. Grand Lodge will conduct and be in control of Opening, Closing and Calling Off/On between all degrees
4. All Candidates will be placed West of the altar during the Obligation
5. The Candidates will place their hands in the proper position of the D-G of the degree being conferred, while the exemplary is kneeling at the altar
6. The Candidates will be West of the Altar, facing the West to receive instructions on how to wear their aprons.

### **Prior to the First Degree**

1. A very brief explanation of the Symbolism of the First Degree and what the Class is expected to learn from this degree may be given.

### **During the First Degree**

2. Explain the Signs, Grip and Words of the First Degree. Explain the placement of the Square and Compass, the Scripture the Bible is opened on and the Step of a EA. Following the Obligation, each candidate will seal their obligation on the V.O.T.S.L.

### **Prior to the Second Degree**

3. A very brief explanation of the Symbolism of the Second Degree and what the Class is expected to learn from this degree may be given.

### **During the Second Degree**

4. Explain the Signs, Grip and Words of the Second Degree. Explain the placement of the Square and Compass, the Scripture the Bible is opened on and the Step of a Fellowcraft. Following the Obligation, each candidate will seal their obligation on the V.O.T.S.L.
5. All Lecturers to be given L1, L2 & L3

### **Prior to the Third Degree**

1. A brief explanation of the Symbolism of the Third Degree (both sections) may be given.

### **During the Third Degree**

2. Explain the Signs, Grips and Words of the Third Degree. Explain the placement of the Square and Compass, the Scripture the Bible is opened on and the Step of

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a Master Mason. Following the Obligation, each will seal their obligation on the V.O.T.S.L. Each candidate should be "Raised" from a front row seat in the Lodge room by the S.G.O.A.M.M. & O.T.F.P.O.F. and receive the G.M.W.

3. All Lecturers to be given L1, L2 & L3

### **PRIOR TO CLOSING**

After the new brothers have otherwise completed their degrees, the new brothers shall be Seated. The Grip and Word to be collected from each new brother for the Second and Third Degree. They shall be given the educational handbook prepared by the Masonic Education Committee, "Introduction to Freemasonry", available from the Grand Lodge Office.

**Close on the Third Degree by Grand Lodge Officers (Not in ample form, no short closings).**

**AT ALL TIMES, COMMON SENSE, RESPECTABILITY AND DECORUM SHOULD PREVAIL.**

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